



Boston College

MEDIA/PHOTO ADVISORY

PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS: HIGH-PRESSURE, FRACKED NATURAL GAS COMPRESSOR POSES RISKS TO WEYMOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD

Compressor Proposed by Texas-based Company the Focus of MAY 13 NEWS CONFERENCE in Advance of May 15 Mass. Department of Environmental Protection Hearing

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (5/6/19) -- Three eminent Boston-area public health experts, in association with the Greater Boston Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, will host a news conference at **10 a.m. on Monday, May 13 at Boston College** to express their opposition to the construction of a natural gas compressor station in the communities of North Weymouth and South Quincy, in advance of a May 15 MassDEP hearing.

Proposed by Houston-based Enbridge, Inc., the compressor poses significant health and environmental risks to the densely populated, low-income communities in the low-lying and flood-prone coastal area, the experts argue. Compressor stations are typically located in remote regions, near fracking operations.

The proposed N. Weymouth site, where the compressor would pump gas to tankers moored offshore, is just 9.2 miles from Boston in a heavily populated area with six nearby schools (1,700 students), elderly housing, a nursing home, a mental health facility, and the Fore River Bridge, which carries 30,000 vehicles daily, all of which would be vulnerable in a gas pipeline explosion. The proposed N. Weymouth station would pressurize gas to 1,400 pounds per square inch (psi), exceeding the 1,000 psi in the April '16 high-pressure pipeline explosion in Salem, Penn., and the explosion in the Merrimac Valley that killed one person and injured 23 people.

WHAT: News Conference; Safety Hazards of Proposed Fracked Gas Compressor Station in N. Weymouth's Fore River Basin

WHO: Philip Landrigan, M.D., Professor of Biology & Director, Boston College Global Public Health Program; **Douglas W. Dockery**, Professor of Environmental Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; **Richard Clapp**, Professor Emeritus, Boston University's School

of Public Health; **Greater Boston Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility**

WHEN: 10 a.m. -11a.m., Monday, May 13

WHERE: Boston College; Murray Function Room, Yawkey Athletics Center, Campanella Way (Parking available in front of Yawkey Center)

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